ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is generally directed to an apparatus and method for performing a unique searching and/or sorting algorithm. In accordance with one embodiment, a searching algorithm is implemented by performing a digit-by-digit

5   comparison of a received number with a directory of stored numbers, by comparing digits in a generally right to left (or least significant to most significant) direction. In one system having a mobile phone that implements an embodiment of the invention, digits of a base phone number are compared before digits of a prefix, such as an area code or country code of the phone number.

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